



2018 Legislative candidate survey

Candidate name: Tana Senn Legislative district: 41

You are a candidate for: **House of Representatives** **Senate**

If you are a candidate for the House of Representatives, which position are your running for? **Position 1** **Position 2**

Local government background

Have you ever been elected or appointed to a local government position, or served on a local government board, committee, or as staff? *Local governments include cities, counties, public utility districts, school districts, fire protection districts, port districts, and more.* **Yes** **No**

If yes, in what capacity?
I served as a Mercer Island City Council member from 2011-2014

1. State-shared local revenues

When the state encounters fiscal problems, legislators often take revenues historically shared with cities, or increase fees on services provided to cities to fill the state's budget deficit. Recently, some shared revenues have been restored. However, during the last recession, the Legislature enacted cuts and diversions, while unfunded mandates and other local government cost drivers remained unaddressed, including the following items:

- Changes in liquor tax and profit distributions resulting in losses of nearly \$200 million in funds that supported essential local services, such as public safety;
- Sweeping and diverting over \$1 billion in local utility taxes, real estate taxes, and project loan repayments from the nationally-acclaimed Public Works Trust Fund (PWTF) that helps keep local infrastructure operating; and
- Requiring cities to pay training fees for officers attending the Basic Law Enforcement Academy (BLEA).

Do you support or oppose the Legislature continuing to use locally-shared revenues or revenues intended for capital projects in order to balance the state's operating budget? **Support** **Oppose**

Briefly describe one or more actions that you would take to ensure your views on these issues are accounted for by your caucus and in a final budget.

I have served as the Chair of the Bi-partisan Local Government Caucus in the House trying to bring issues like these to the forefront in order to build support to change them. I have successfully restored some marijuana revenues and will continue to work to ensure local governments have more flexibility and options for revenue.

